

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING - BUDGET
CITY COUNCIL

June 20, 2016

Ronnie Thompson, Mayor

Sally W. Sandy, City Manager
Louis E. Vinay, Jr., City Attorney

John H. Cantrell)
Forrest A. Fleming) Councilmen
Sidney Simmons)
Vacant)

I. Call to Order – The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

II. Closed Session to Discuss an Economic Development Project as per General Statutes sec. 143-318.11(a)(4)

Upon motion by Councilman Simmons, seconded by Councilman Cantrell, and carried unanimously, the Council approved going into closed session, pursuant to General Statutes sec. 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss an economic development project.

The Council came out of closed session at 5:51 p.m. and went into a recess.

The Mayor reconvened the Open Session at 6:00 p.m.

III. Public Hearing and Actions

1. Public Hearing to Consider the City of Morganton Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 6:00 p.m.

The City Manager summarized the budget information stating the Budget Ordinance establishes the tax rate at \$0.53 for general tax and \$0.14 for municipal service district tax per \$100 valuation. A vehicle tax of \$20 per year for personal vehicles was added this year. She stated this is a balanced budget. Also included are revenues anticipated and expenditures authorized as presented to the City Council on June 6, 2016. She stated the public hearing notice was published in The News Herald on June 8, 2016.

- Eliot Lytle resides at 212 Sherwood Place. Lytle stated he wanted to give thanks to retired Recreation Director Gary Leonhardt for working to get the skate park included in this year's budget.

- Dale Brittain resides at 103 Case Street. Brittain questioned whether the new vehicle tax was a one-time tax or would it be a permanent tax. The City Manager stated the tax would continue until the Council made a change.

There being no further public comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:03 p.m.

ACTIONS:

a. Consideration of Adoption of the City of Morganton Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017

Upon motion by Councilman Cantrell, seconded by Councilman Fleming, and carried unanimously, the Council adopted the Budget Ordinance #16-31 for Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

b. Consideration of Adoption of Schedule of Fees and Charges 2016-2017

Upon motion by Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Cantrell, and carried unanimously, the Council adopted the Schedule of Fees and Charges for FY 2016-2017.

IV. Consideration of Year-end Budget Amendments 2015-2016

The City Manager stated the following year-end budget amendments clean up some line items in the budget for 2015-2016.

The City Manager summarized the various line items in the General Fund.

Upon motion by Councilman Simmons, seconded by Councilman Cantrell, and carried unanimously, the Council approved the General Fund Budget Amendment (Ord. #16-32) for \$591,000.

The City Manager summarized the various line items in the Water Fund.

Upon motion by Councilman Simmons, seconded by Councilman Cantrell, and carried unanimously, the Council approved the Water Fund Budget Amendment (Ord. #16-33) for \$14,700.

The City Manager summarized the various line items in the Electric Fund.

Upon motion by Councilman Cantrell, seconded by Councilman Fleming, and carried unanimously, the Council approved the Electric Fund Budget Amendment (Ord. #16-34) for \$120,815.

The City Manager stated the change in the Wastewater Fund is actually a reclassification within the fund so no action is required. The item was removed from the agenda.

The City Manager summarized the various line items in the Cable Fund.

Upon motion by Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Cantrell, and carried unanimously, the Council approved the Cable Fund Budget Amendment (Ord. #16-35) for \$256,000.

The City Manager summarized the various line items in the Cemetery Fund.

Upon motion by Councilman Cantrell, seconded by Councilman Fleming, and carried unanimously, the Council approved the Cemetery Fund Budget Amendment (Ord. #16-36) for \$10,000.

The City Manager summarized the various line items in the Capital Reserve Fund.

Upon motion by Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Cantrell, and carried unanimously, the Council approved the Capital Reserve Fund Budget Amendment (Ord. #16-37) for \$130,000.

The City Manager summarized the various line items in the Supplemental Retirement Fund.

Upon motion by Councilman Simmons, seconded by Councilman Fleming, and carried unanimously, the Council approved the Supplemental Retirement Fund Budget Amendment (Ord. #16-38) for \$2,866.

The City Manager summarized the various line items in the Water Capital Project Fund.

Upon motion by Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Cantrell, and carried unanimously, the Council approved the Water Capital Project Fund Budget Amendment (Ord. #16-39 and #16-30) for \$(8,601).

V. Consideration of an Amendment to the Capital Project Ordinance for the Clearwell Replacement Project – duplicated item.

VI. Consideration of a Resolution in Support of the Fonta Flora State Trail

The City Manager stated that Burke County Community Development has been working on the Fonta Flora State Trail Master Plan – Lake James Section. The original concept of the trail has been expanded to stretch from Morganton to Asheville. The North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation (NCDPR) supports the expansion, and Burke County is now working on having local governments along the route pass resolutions of support for the trail.

The eastern terminus of the Fonta Flora State Trail would most likely be the split of the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail (OVNHT) and the Catawba River Trail possibly designating the existing Catawba River Greenway as part of the State Trail. This designation would provide more recognition and publicity for Morganton's greenway and may improve chances of grant funding through PARTF and RTP grants.

Upon motion by Councilman Cantrell, seconded by Councilman Simmons, and carried unanimously, the Council adopted Resolution #16-20 in support of the Fonta Flora State Trail.

VII. Consideration of Appointments to Boards and Commissions

a. **Morganton Housing Authority** – There has been a vacancy on the Morganton Housing Authority Board that is required by ordinance to be filled by a resident of the Morganton Housing Authority.

Victoria Smith, Public Housing / Office Manager, has sent a request to have Ms. Judy Owensby, a resident living in the Housing Authority, be appointed to the Board.

The Mayor appointed Judy Owensby to the Morganton Housing Authority Board for a term to expire February 2, 2017.

b. **Cable Television Commission** – Bill Harkins has received a note from Freedom High School asking that Garrett Ward be appointed as their representative on the Cable Television Commission. Garrett is a student at Freedom High School.

Upon motion by Councilman Simmons, seconded by Councilman Cantrell, and carried unanimously, the Council appointed Garrett Ward as the Freedom High School representative to the Cable Television Commission for the term to expire June 1, 2017.

VIII. Other Items from City Manager and City Council Not on the Agenda – There were no other items presented.

IX. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Preparation of Minutes. These minutes were prepared by Mikela D. Russell, Assistant City Clerk. Copies of all resolutions, ordinances and orders referenced in these minutes are intended to be incorporated into these minutes as if fully set forth herein. Prior to including them into the official minute book, the minutes have been read and approved by the City Manager and the City Attorney, then distributed to each member of the City Council for further review and final approval, at a subsequent Council Meeting.

Mayor

Assistant City Clerk